

# Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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## BILLARD CO. DEAL CENTER OF BATTLE IN RAILROAD CASE

Attorneys in Conspiracy Trial of "New Haven" Directors Clash Over Admission of Certain Papers.

Judge Hunt Withholds Decision on Points Until Later—Letter Shows Part of New York Central in Transaction.

New York, Nov. 22.—The fight begun yesterday by counsel for the defense to keep out evidence on transactions of the John I. Billard Company was resumed today at the trial of the 11 former directors of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad. Argument continued for nearly half an hour after which the court ordered counsel to proceed with its evidence.

Judge Hunt said that he could not rule on the matter until he knew more of the nature of the transactions concerning which he could not accept the conflicting statements of counsel.

The Billard company is the concern which the government alleges was used by the New Haven to conceal the ownership of the Boston & Maine stock until legislation could be obtained legally enabling it to own the road under the laws of Massachusetts.

H. D. Battis, for the government, then started to introduce a letter which he said had to do with legislation. To this the defense also objected.

"We are going to show by this," said Mr. Battis, "that the New York Central and the New Haven having agreed to work together in matters of legislation, proceeded to do so. There is no evidence of corruption here."

The letter written by Charles S. Mellen to Charles F. Choate, Sr., on May 22, 1908, was admitted and read in part as follows:

"Your favor of the 1st regarding action of the Boston & Albany (New York Central line) with legislative matters was received this morning and I have taken the matter up with Mr. Newman (President New York Central) a few moments ago."

"Mr. Newman says that, without being at all active in the matter, and, of course, whatever is done will have to be done very quietly, he will instruct his people in Boston to say to such friends as they have in the legislature that all we are undertaking to accomplish is in accord with their wishes and that they should assist."

"You understand what a delicate position it is and the New York Central don't want to take any action openly for or against but the influence will be quickly felt, I think, from this time on."

Precisely what the subject of the legislation was did not appear from the testimony.

## U.S. WITNESS IN HAMBURG TRIALS LEAVES COUNTRY

Jury Completed, Government Finds Important Witness in Bermuda.

New York, Nov. 22.—Efforts were made in the United States court today to complete the selection of a neutral jury for the trial of Karl Bueh, managing director, and employees of the Hamburg-American line on charges of conspiracy to violate customs laws in sending supply ships to German warships.

Ten jurors were chosen yesterday, subject to peremptory challenge. At the opening of court today it became known that an important witness for the government had left the United States a week ago and is now in Bermuda. Roger E. Wood, the assistant district attorney in charge of the prosecution, said the man knew he would be wanted to testify at the trial. Word that the witness had left the country was received only today when his son came here from Philadelphia in his father's place. No reason for the witness' trip to Bermuda could be learned.

The jury box was filled within an hour after today's session opened and the jurors were accepted by both sides and sworn.

Immediately after this William Hand, Jr., of counsel for the defense, notified Assistant District Attorney Wood that the defense would withdraw that part of the previous admission pertaining to the alleged connection of Captain K. Boy-Ed, German naval attaché, with the acts charged by the government. This part of the admission made by the defendants stated that Captain Boy-Ed had been consulted regarding the sending of steamships with supplies to German war raiders and that the work had been carried on largely under his direction. No reason for withdrawing the admission was given.

## THE WEATHER

Cloudy and warmer tonight and Wednesday, probably rain; moderate variable winds, becoming south.

## CLUES HINT AT DUEL BETWEEN TWO BROTHERS

Police Have Theory That Murder Was Caused By Fraternal Fight.

MAN NOW DEAD MAY HAVE STARTED ROW

Stories of Injured Man and Witnesses Strengthen New Line.

That Robert Mondzavsky, who was shot to death early Saturday morning, and his brother, Joseph, who is in St. Vincent's hospital with revolver wounds in the chest and head, might have engaged in a duel, is the theory on which the police are working today. Coroner Phelan and Detective Sergeant Cronan went to St. Vincent's hospital today and took a statement from the wounded man but both the coroner and the detective refused to make it public.

It is known, however, that Mondzavsky told an entirely different story from that which his first told the police regarding the shooting. Today he said there were two men in his room instead of one as he first claimed and that a short time ago he had been threatened by two Russians. A derby hat and a cap were found in the room where the shooting occurred. Joseph Mondzavsky has denied ownership of them, but his brother, John, who lives across the hall at 437 Main street, has identified the cap as belonging to Joseph and the derby hat to his other brother, Robert, who is dead.

The theory on which the police are now working is that Robert, now dead, had entered his brother's room, shooting at him as he came. Two bullets, which missed, were found lodged in the parlor wall in a direct line from where the elder Mondzavsky might have stood. The second shot struck Joseph and made the wound in his chest according to the police theory. Then according to this theory, Joseph grappled with Robert and in the struggle for the revolver, the fourth shot was fired, grazing Joseph's head. There is a seared line on the under side of the peak of the cap on a direct line to the wound in Joseph's head.

Joseph, the theory goes, gained possession of the revolver and fired the last cartridge into the body of his brother. Then, some time later, he reloaded the weapon and as his brother lay prone and helpless on the floor of the bedroom he sent three more bullets into his brother's body. In his haste in reloading the weapon, the theory is, he dropped several cartridges into the blood on the floor which had oozed from his own and his brother's wounds. His reloading the revolver would also account for the empty shells found on the floor. Neither the police nor the coroner would comment on this theory.

Peter Szewski of 387 Main street, told Coroner Phelan today that he was reading at the window of his room when he heard the shots and shouts and he saw a man in a crouch position run through the back yard. He could not identify the man. A South End saloon keeper has also told the police that he saw a man running along Main street after the shooting and that he had a revolver in his hand.

Joseph Mondzavsky claims that he came home and found a man under his bed. That the man came out and shot him and that his brother was coming to his assistance. Coroner Phelan expects to make a report to the police tomorrow. As yet neither the police nor the coroner has any theory as to what caused the quarrel between the brothers.

## EPICURES BREAK INTO WEST END GROCER'S STORE

Discriminating Burglars Select Choice of Goods From Shelves.

Burglars whose epicurean tastes are clearly seen in the discriminating manner they ransacked a stock of groceries and cigars broke into the store of C. T. Carlson & Brother, Wood avenue and Somers street last night by means of a key.

Carefully rummaging the place they took about 40 pounds of the best butter, a large ham, some bacon, two boxes of the best cigars in the place and ended up by packing a quantity of nuts and raising which they omitted to take away in their hurry.

The store was closed at 6 o'clock last night and was apparently entered about 8 o'clock by someone familiar with the vicinity for it was done under the direct glare of an arc light shining at the corner.

Detective George Fox detailed to investigate declared it one of the boldest entries that has been made recently in Bridgeport. Mr. Carlson in commenting upon the loss today said that the store was one of a class who knew the difference in brands of cigars and other table luxuries for they selected nothing but the best, discarding anything of inferior quality. The loss is estimated at about \$50.

## MARRIAGE LICENSE.

Marriage licenses were issued today to Thomas O'Neil, 25, tool setter, 629 East Main street, and May Heeney, 29, of the same address. Also to John T. Connolly, 24, cranialist, of 469 Park avenue, and Freda Vidsury, 21, same address.

## MRS. MARSHALL BETTER.

Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 22.—Mrs. Thomas R. Marshall, wife of the vice president, passed a good night and was reported to be in good condition today. She underwent an abdominal operation at a local hospital yesterday.

## FIND SALESMAN DEAD ON FLOOR OF STRATFIELD

Dealer in Automobile Accessories is Stricken Suddenly in Basement.

PERSONAL EFFECTS REVEAL IDENTITY

Medical Examiner Authorizes Removal of Body to Undertaking Rooms.

Edward K. Rowland, a traveling salesman, aged about 50, was found dead in a lavatory in the basement of the Hotel Stratfield this afternoon. From papers found upon the corpse it is believed that Rowland was employed by William & Harvey Rowland, Inc., dealers in automobile sundries, of Frankford, Pa. Medical Examiner S. M. Garlick believes death was due to Bright's disease and heart trouble.

Rowland's death was discovered by Charles A. Voos, 246 Fifth avenue, New York city. Voos heard what he thought were moans, in one of the compartments in the lavatory, which suddenly ceased when there was a thud. He investigated and found Rowland's body, prone on the tiled floor.

Dr. G. S. Ford, the hotel physician, was the first to bring professional aid to the stricken man. He found Rowland dead, and notified Medical Examiner Garlick. The latter found death was due to natural causes and authorized the removal of the body to the undertaking parlors of Henry E. Bishop.

In the pockets of Rowland's clothing were found letters addressed to the officials of the William & Harvey Rowland Co., Inc., and it appears from the contents of one letter that the deceased had an engagement with C. C. Ostrom, purchasing agent of the Locomobile Company of America.

According to hotel attaches, the deceased had not registered on the hotel book. He had been in the hotel but a short time when he suffered the fatal attack. The police have communicated the news of the death to the police of Frankford, Pa.

## MAYOR VEToes EXTENSION OF HARRISON ST.

Mayor Wilson will veto the proposed extension of Harrison street from Fairfield avenue to State street, although the streets and sidewalks committee made a report favoring the plan which the common council adopted at its last meeting. The mayor said today he would not make public his reasons for vetoing the proposed extension until the first meeting of the new common council in December.

When the matter was first broached the board of appraisal of benefits and damages estimated that it would cost about \$180,000 to carry out the plan. Since then Handy & Harman Co. has moved its factory from John street to Fairfield. At a recent meeting of the common council, Alderman MacFayden, chairman of the streets and sidewalks committee, asked the board to make another appraisal of the matter, the first having been rejected by the council.

The new estimate which the council adopted gives damages to property owners of \$181,000.72 and no benefit. In the case of John R. Woodhull who would have a corner property if the project went through, it is estimated that damages and benefits will be equal. The damages to other property owners have been estimated as follows: Nellie O'Connor, \$3,000; E. M. Cullinan, \$20,000; Edmund Warren estate, \$16,900; Mildred Adams, \$5,000; Bridgeport Patent Leather Co., \$14,000; Handy & Harman, \$6,000; William R. Harris, \$25,872; United Illuminating Co., \$13,200; F. F. Raymond estate, \$39,000.

It has been known that Mayor Wilson has opposed the project since it was first broached and he has refused to make known the reasons for his opposition although he has now promised to do so at the next meeting of the council.

## BETHLEHEM STEEL CO. HAS ANOTHER FIRE IN FACTORY

South Bethlehem, Nov. 22.—There was a fire today in No. 4 machine shop of the Bethlehem Steel Co., recently badly damaged by flames. The blaze originated in a dynamo and was extinguished before any material damage was done.

## VERDICT AGAINST HANS SCHMIDT IS UPHeld BY COURT

Albany, N. Y., Nov. 22.—The judgment convicting Hans Schmidt, the former New York priest, of the murder of Anna Ammerl, upheld by the court of appeals today. The court's finding was unanimous.

## NEW GREEK PREMIER READY TO RESIGN; TEUTONIC ARMY CAPTURES BIG SERB FORCE

## COMMERCIAL BLOCKADE OF GREEK PORTS CALLED OFF AS BRITISH WIN DEMANDS

London, Nov. 23.—The foreign office states no Greek ships are being seized or held up in the ports of the United Kingdom and that no blockade of Greek ports is in force.

No amplification of the foreign office statement is obtainable in official quarters. The universal deduction is that the Greek government has satisfied the British demands, submitted by Earl Kitchener, secretary for war, who was in Athens last week. It is assumed that Greece has furnished guarantees of the safety of the Anglo-French expeditionary force.

It is believed the announcements from Athens concerning a commercial blockade of Greece were premature in that they reversed the previous intentions of the entente allies as accomplished facts.

Recent despatches from the near

Another Crisis Expected in Athens Government Following Latest Difficulties With British Government.

Nearly 10,000 Serbians Are Reported Prisoners in Central Powers' Invasion—Many Guns Captured.

Saloniki, Nov. 23.—The resignation of Premier Skouloudis of Greece, according to reports in circulation here is expected momentarily, on account of difficulties between Greece and Great Britain.

## Serbs Driven Back

Berlin, Nov. 23.—Notable progress for the Bulgarians in the region southwest of Pristina in Serbia, with the capture of 8,000 Serbians, 44 cannon and 22 machine guns was announced by German army headquarters today. The Teutonic troops have taken 1,500 additional Serbian prisoners and captured six cannon.

Northeast of Pristina and north of Mitrovitza the Austro-German forces are advancing, throwing back the Serbians who are resisting in rearguard actions.

## SERB GOVERNMENT IS AGAIN REMOVED

Athens, Nov. 23.—According to diplomatic advices received here today, the Serbian government has been moved from Mitrovitza to Pirot, in Western Serbia, near the Albanian border. The diplomatic corps has gone to Petch, Montenegro.

## MONASTIR HOLDS OUT AGAINST THE BULGARS

London, Nov. 23.—The latest news from the Balkans has revived the hope in England that Monastir may hold out long enough to enable the French and British forces to effect a junction with the Serbians. The Rome and London legations of Serbia have received reports of a great Serbian victory northeast of Epirus, but as these advices five neither details nor dates there are doubts as to their importance.

It is now believed allied forces which may take advantage of Greek rivalry are hardly likely to be subjected to attack from the rear. The most significant indication as to the present attitude of Greece is contained in remarks made by M. Rhabis, Greek minister of justice, who is quoted in press despatches as having complained bitterly of methods adopted by the entente allies. He argued that their tardiness in bringing effective supplies for the Serbians made Greek participation impossible.

M. Rhabis declared, however, that the entente allies had no reason to fear danger if they could be forced across the Greek border.

The French military position in Macedonia is reported to have improved. The assertion is made that the Bulgarians retired after a vain attack on the French lines.

The seat of the Serbian government again has been shifted on this occasion to Prirentine where the diplomatic corps has moved to Petch, Montenegro.

A message from Constantinople by way of Germany reports the resumption of a violent offensive by the allies on the Dardanelles. No official confirmation of this report has been received. Except for the Russian announcement of a repulse of the Germans in front of Riga nothing of importance has reached the public from the eastern line. British artillery is busy on the western front where the only other activity of late has been mining and aerial operations.

## NATIONAL BODY SEEKS HELP IN SILVER STRIKES

Meriden, Nov. 23.—Vice President Flynn, of the International Polishers' and Buffers' Union, who is in charge of the strike of silver workers here, said today that he had received word from the convention of the American Federation of Labor at San Francisco that assistance had been voted to the strikers in Meriden, Waterbury and Wallingford to the extent of asking the 27,000 locals in the United States and Canada to contribute one dollar each a week for that purpose.

The strikers are members of a new silver workers union which, it is understood, is not yet eligible under the rules of the association for the regular strike fund.

## STRATFORD BOOMS AS RESULT OF BUILDING RESTRICTIONS IN BRIDGEPORT'S NEW CODE

Stratford is experiencing a phenomenal building boom. Nearly 1,500 one, two and three-family houses are now under construction or projected to be completed before July 1.

While large tracts of land have recently been acquired in the Hollis Heights and Avon Park sections of Stratford the boom is now general and is said by prominent real estate dealers of this city to be due to the present building code, which has driven really investors to Stratford, Fairfield and other towns.

William J. Nichols, one of the foremost investors and realty promoters in Bridgeport, who recently developed the Westover Golf club and the Wilcoxson properties in Stratford and sold the land upon which the present Remington Arms & Ammunition factories stand, today predicted that within one year the town will be built solidly to the Bridgeport line, with Bridgeport getting merely the overflow of buildings of the one and two-family type.

Steps may soon be taken by the Good Housing association of Bridgeport through whose efforts the building code was advocated for passage in the common council, may soon

take steps to have changes made in the code that will permit the construction of three-family houses of wood rather than the four-family type which is now permitted, although David S. Day, an officer in the Housing association, has stated that there are little funds in the treasury to prosecute further measures at this time.

Adolph Sherman, a builder with offices at 933 Main street, today explained the building situation in Bridgeport in this manner:

"The present building code in its application to Bridgeport has proved a hindrance rather than a benefit. While it will give the city a better class of buildings, its detrimental features have already become apparent and surrounding towns have already felt the impetus of building while thousands of dollars are in sight for further development in Stratford and Fairfield as soon as the land can be bought. Eventually Bridgeport will lose its appeal as a place to build. The present building code, house cannot be erected profitably in Bridgeport for the very class of workers that must need be accommodated."

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## E. N. SPERRY WEDS MRS. ZEB MAYHEW IN NEW YORK CITY

Prominent Manufacturer and Lumber Merchant's Widow Met Travelling.

Ellie Newton Sperry, president of the Monumental Bronze Co. of this city and prominent in club and political circles, and Mrs. Olive Marion Mayhew of Great Neck, L. I., were married today in New York city.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. David James Burrell at the Marble Collegiate church on Fifth avenue. Mr. and Mrs. Sperry then sailed for a short trip abroad.

Mrs. Sperry was the widow of Zeb Mayhew who was for many years head of the old lumber firm of Simpson, Clapp & Co., at 17 State street, New York. Since his death in 1910 she has spent much of her time in travelling, having visited the Land of the Midnight Sun and travelling extensively in the Orient. It was on a trip around South America last winter that she and Mr. Sperry became acquainted.

Mrs. Sperry's country place, "Maybank," is situated directly on the Sound at Elm Point, Great Neck, L. I. She has many friends there as well as in New York city, where she has lived for many winters and at one time she held the position of New York State Regent of the Daughters of the Revolution.

Mr. Sperry is a member of the Seaside club and has always been active in politics in Bridgeport, having once run for mayor on the Republican ticket.

Mr. Sperry has two children, a daughter, Mrs. William Bristol of this city and a son, Ralph M. Sperry, who was recently married to Miss Josephine Birdsey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Birdsey.

While it was not generally known here that Mr. Sperry contemplated a second marriage, his exceptionally large number of friends will be pleased to learn of the event and hasten to offer their congratulations to him and his bride.

## MYSTERY ABOUT MASHER WHO IS STABBED 4 TIMES

Man With Gang to Help Him Is Cut—Opponent Had No Weapon With Him.

The police have another mystery among the foreign-born population. They are trying to guess how Michael Allen of 367 Grand street, who attacked a gang member who insulted his feminine companion last night, happened to get fewer injuries than his opponent when the gang came to the latter's defense.

Allen fought with Sale Tube of Derby and the latter's gang came to his defense. When it was all over Allen had four knife wounds and Allen one. No knife was found on Allen when he was arrested.

Allen is an ironworker in the employ of the James Stewart Construction Co. The police say he is just out of jail. He was walking with Mrs. Mary Hoffman to her home at 367 Grand street last night when Tube is alleged to have called out: "Hello, Girls!" Allen objected and a fight followed. The group with Tube went after Allen.

"We don't allow men to talk with women they don't know, in Bridgeport," said Judge Wilbur in the city court this morning, when the two were arraigned before him. He sentenced Tube to five days in jail for addressing the young woman, but suspended judgment on account of the wounds from which he was suffering. Allen's case was nolle.

## BRIDGE IN ROME IS WASHED AWAY; HUNDRED DROWN

Rome, Nov. 23.—One hundred persons were drowned today by the washing away of a bridge over the Salvo river near Licato, Sicily.